

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for performing master planning priority
2 assignment, the method comprising:

3 assigning a priority to a demand record, said demand
4 record containing a demand record attribute field and a
5 demand record priority field; said assigning including:

6 identifying a rule database, said rule database
7 including at least one record, a rule database attribute
8 field that correlates to said demand record attribute field,
9 and a rule database priority field;

10 querying said rule database for a corresponding rule
11 database record that contains data in said rule database
12 attribute field that matches data in said demand record
13 attribute field; and

14 updating data in said demand record priority field with
15 data from said corresponding rule database priority field.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said data in said
2 corresponding rule database attribute field contains an
3 explicit value.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said data in said
2 corresponding rule database attribute field contains a
3 hierarchy value and said match occurs if said data in said
4 demand record attribute field is contained within said
5 hierarchy value.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein said data in said
2 corresponding rule database attribute field contains a
3 wildcard value and said data in said demand record attribute
4 field is not used in said matching.

5 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said demand record
6 attribute field includes due date, customer, and demand
7 type.

1 6. The method of claim 1 further comprising creating
2 said rule database.

1 7. The method of claim 1 further comprising updating
2 said at least one record in said rule database.

1 8. The method of claim 1 further comprising creating a
2 hierarchy value, said hierarchy value containing a hierarchy
3 value.

1 9. The method of claim 1 further comprising creating a
2 hierarchy value, said hierarchy value containing an explicit
3 value.

1 10. A method for master planning priority assignment,
2 the method comprising:
3 assigning a priority to a demand record, said demand
4 record containing a demand record attribute field and a
5 demand record priority field; said assigning including:
6 identifying a rule database, said rule database
7 including at least one record, a rule database attribute
8 field that correlates to said demand record attribute field,
9 and a rule database priority field;
10 querying said rule database for a corresponding rule
11 database record that contains data in said rule database
12 attribute field that matches data in said demand record
13 attribute field, said matching comprising:
14 querying said rule database for an explicit data match;
15 if no said explicit data match exists querying said
16 rule database for a hierarchy value match; and;
17 if no said explicit data match or said hierarchy value
18 data match exists querying said rule database for a wildcard
19 match; and
20 updating data in said demand record priority field with
21 data from said corresponding rule database priority field.

1 11. A system for performing master planning priority
2 assignment, the system comprising:
3 a storage device storing master planning priority
4 assignment data;
5 a user system; and
6 a host system in communication with said storage device
7 and said user systems, said host system implementing a
8 process comprising:
9 assigning a priority to a demand record, said demand
10 record containing a demand record attribute field and a
11 demand record priority field; said assigning including:
12 identifying a rule database, said rule database
13 including at least one record, a rule database attribute
14 field that correlates to said demand record attribute field,
15 and a rule database priority field;
16 querying said rule database for a corresponding rule
17 database record that contains data in said rule database
18 attribute field that matches data in said demand record
19 attribute field; and
20 updating data in said demand record priority field with
21 data from said corresponding rule database priority field.

1 12. The system of claim 11 wherein said wherein said
2 data in said corresponding rule database attribute field
3 contains an explicit value.

1 13. The system of claim 11 wherein said data in said
2 corresponding rule database attribute field contains a
3 hierarchy value and said match occurs if said data in said
4 demand record attribute field is contained within said
5 hierarchy value.

1 14. The system of claim 11 wherein said data in said
2 corresponding rule database attribute field contains a
3 wildcard value and said data in said demand record attribute
4 field is not used in said matching.

5 15. The system of claim 11 wherein said demand record
6 attribute field includes due date, customer, and demand
7 type.

1 16. The system of claim 11 wherein said host system
2 implementing a process further comprises creating said rule
3 database.

1 17. The system of claim 11 wherein said host system
2 implementing a process further comprises updating said at
3 least one record in said rule database.

1 18. The system of claim 11 wherein said host system
2 implementing a process further comprises creating a
3 hierarchy value, said hierarchy value containing a hierarchy
4 value.

1 19. The system of claim 11 wherein said host system
2 implementing a process further comprises creating a
3 hierarchy value, said hierarchy value containing an explicit
4 value.

1 20. The system of claim 11 further comprising a
2 network providing communication between the host system and
3 the user system.

1 21. The system of claim 11 further comprising a
2 network providing communication between the storage device
3 and the host system.

1 22. A system for performing master planning priority
2 assignment, the system comprising:
3 a storage device storing master planning priority
4 assignment data;
5 a user system; and
6 a host system in communication with said storage device
7 and said user systems, said host system implementing a
8 process comprising:
9 assigning a priority to a demand record, said demand
10 record containing a demand record attribute field and a
11 demand record priority field; said assigning including:
12 identifying a rule database, said rule database
13 including at least one record, a rule database attribute
14 field that correlates to said demand record attribute field,
15 and a rule database priority field;
16 querying said rule database for a corresponding rule
17 database record that contains data in said rule database
18 attribute field that matches data in said demand record
19 attribute field, said matching comprising:
20 querying said rule database for an explicit data match;
21 if no said explicit data match exists querying said
22 rule database for a hierarchy value match; and;
23 if no said explicit data match or said hierarchy value
24 data match exists querying said rule database for a wildcard
25 match; and updating data in said demand record priority
26 field with data from
27 said corresponding rule database priority field.

1 23. A storage medium encoded with machine-readable
2 computer program code for performing master planning
3 priority assignment, the storage medium storing instructions
4 for causing a host system to implement a method comprising:
5 assigning a priority to a demand record, said demand
6 record containing a demand record attribute field and a
7 demand record priority field; said assigning including:
8 identifying a rule database, said rule database
9 including at least one record, a rule database attribute
10 field that correlates to said demand record attribute field,
11 and a rule database priority field;
12 querying said rule database for a corresponding rule
13 database record that contains data in said rule database
14 attribute field that matches data in said demand record
15 attribute field; and
16 updating data in said demand record priority field with
17 data from said corresponding rule database priority field.

1 24. The storage medium of claim 23 wherein said data
2 in said corresponding rule database attribute field contains
3 an explicit value.

1 25. The storage medium of claim 23 wherein said data
2 in said corresponding rule database attribute field contains
3 a hierarchy value and said match occurs if said data in said
4 demand record attribute field is contained within said
5 hierarchy value.

1 26. The storage medium of claim 23 wherein said data
2 in said corresponding rule database attribute field contains
3 a wildcard value and said data in said demand record
4 attribute field is not used in said matching.

1 27. The storage medium of claim 23 wherein said demand
2 record attribute field includes due date, customer, and
3 demand type.

1 28. The storage medium of claim 23 further comprising
2 creating said rule database.

1 29. The storage medium of claim 23 further comprising
2 updating said at least one record in said rule database.

1 30. The storage medium of claim 23 further comprising
2 creating a hierarchy value, said hierarchy value containing
3 a hierarchy value.

1 31. The storage medium of claim 23 further comprising
2 creating a hierarchy value, said hierarchy value containing
3 an explicit value.

1 32. A storage medium encoded with machine-readable
2 computer program code for performing master planning
3 priority assignment, the storage medium storing instructions
4 for causing a host system to implement a method comprising:
5 assigning a priority to a demand record, said demand
6 record containing a demand record attribute field and a
7 demand record priority field; said assigning including:
8 identifying a rule database, said rule database
9 including at least one record, a rule database attribute
10 field that correlates to said demand record attribute field,
11 and a rule database priority field;
12 querying said rule database for a corresponding rule
13 database record that contains data in said rule database
14 attribute field that matches data in said demand record
15 attribute field, said matching comprising:
16 querying said rule database for an explicit data match;
17 if no said explicit data match exists querying said
18 rule database for a hierarchy value match; and;
19 if no said explicit data match or said hierarchy value
20 data match exists querying said rule database for a wildcard
21 match; and
22 updating data in said demand record priority field with
23 data from said corresponding rule database priority field.